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(c) The Government are not in a position to give any undertaking in the matter.

Dr. P SUBBARAYAN :—" May I ask whether the Government have recommended the acquisition of a suitable site for an aerodrome ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" They have not recommended anything, but they have asked that any scheme which may be under consideration may be referred to them before a decision is come to."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" I should like to get a direct answer from the Government to the question whether they are or are not prepared to render assistance in the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" I would refer the hon. Member to clause (c) of the answer."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" In clause (b) of the answer the Government say that a copy of the resolution has therefore been forwarded to the Government of India. May I know whether that resolution has been backed up by the strong recommendation of the Government or whether it has been simply forwarded ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" I have already answered that question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know what the state of mind of the Member for Government is with regard to his preparedness to assist or not to assist ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" His state of mind is one of suspension of judgment." (Laughter.)

Local Boards

Vice-Presidentship of the Cuddapah District Board.

* 70 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when did the Vice-Presidentship of the Cuddapah District Board fall vacant ;

(b) whether the place is now filled up ; and

(c) whether there has been any delay in filling up the place and if so, how long and why ?

A.—(a) On the 5th August 1930.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. An election to fill the office of Vice-President was held on the 30th July 1930 when the vacancy had not actually occurred. This election was therefore, Government were advised, illegal and was accordingly cancelled by them in August last and a fresh election ordered. The re-election took place on the 29th November 1930 and has since been gazetted. Government have no information in regard to the delay in the re-election.

Mr K. KOTI REDDI :—" May I know if there is a rule which says that an election should take place within a certain number of days after the occurrence of a vacancy ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir, there is a rule which says that an election to fill up a vacancy should be held within fifteen days."

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Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"How long has the election been delayed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"There has been a delay of more than two months."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"May I know why the Government in spite of this long delay have not thought it necessary to obtain information regarding the reasons that led to it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"One of the rules is that election should be held within 15 days; but it has not been found possible to hold the election within the time. If in this particular case the hon. Member wants information regarding the delay I am prepared to get it."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"May I know if the Government will take steps to avoid such delays?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"We are now considering the question of framing rules under the new Act and the suggestion of the hon. Member will be borne in mind."

Causeway over the Cheyyar river near Tiruvettipuram, North Arcot district.

*71 Q.—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that four persons were washed away recently while endeavouring to cross the Cheyyar by the causeway near Tiruvettipuram in North Arcot district; and

(b) with a view to help persons wading through water in causeways of rivers, whether the Government propose to fix iron poles on the western sides of the causeways and connect the poles by chains or rods?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information and no proposal in the matter is before them.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—"May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that if iron poles on the western sides of the causeways are fixed and connected by chains or rods, it will prevent loss of life?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"No, Sir."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—"I want to know whether any information was called for with regard to this particular question?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"Information was called for from the district board president concerned and he replied that with regard to clause (a) he has no information and with regard to (b) he does not agree with the suggestion made."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—"If the district board president has no information he must call for it from the taluk board president concerned."